REMARKS

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and this amendment has been presented to place this application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, examination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 15-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herz et al. (U.S. Patent 5,758,257).

Claims 15 and 17 as amended recite "said time-variable coefficient being determined by a linear interpolation on the basis of the request time and defining a value for said life-scene/time function." It is respectfully submitted that the relied upon portions of the cited reference do not teach or suggest such a feature.

The present claims have been amended to clarify the instant invention. According to claims 15 and 17, as amended, the present invention utilizes linear interpolation to determine a time-variable coefficient value. The time variable aspect of this coefficient value depends upon the specific time at which the user requests the electronic program guide. This value is then used in conjunction with the life-scene/time function to determine a genre taste value. Contrary, to the Examiner's assertions no similar teaching can be found in Herz.

Further, it is submitted that Herz does not teach linear interpolation. The Examiner contends "Herz teaches that the start or end time of a mood window maybe a subset of another mood window" and that this evidences "linear interpolation." However, these mood windows the Examiner points to define ranges of time not a specific coefficient value, thus even if one mood is a subset of another, the subset does not meet the linear interpolation element of the instant claims as defined in the instant application which requires determination of a specific value. The mood ranges described by Herz have a hierarchy whereby the most specific hierarchy

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is utilized when two or more moods overlap. Meaning that even if each of these two moods provided a "value" the value used in the device of Herz would be one associated with whichever of the two moods had priority. It is respectfully submitted that this is not linear interpolation. Linear interpolation is a process of calculating unknown values from known values when one can assume a constant rate of change. That the inventors intended this common definition for linear interpolation can be ascertained by reference to page 27 of the application where linear interpolation is discussed.

Accordingly, Herz fails to meet the "time-variable coefficient being determined by a linear interpolation on the basis of the request time and defining a multiplier value for said life-scene/time function" limitation as recited in the present claims. Therefore, for at least these reasons, Herz fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of claims 15-20 which should be allowed.

In the event that the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing comments concerning the disclosures in the cited prior art, it is requested that the Examiner indicate where in the reference, there is the basis for a contrary view.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable over the prior art, and early and favorable consideration thereof is solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fee that may be required to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
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